



REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 5, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and new claims 4 and 5 have been added. No new matter is presented. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in at least Figures 1 and 2 of the application as originally filed. Support for new claims 4 and 5 can be found on at least page 5, lines 15-16 of the Specification as originally filed. Claims 1-5 are pending and respectfully submitted for consideration.

Interview

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the interview granted on December 4, 2006. In the interview, claims 1-5 and the Inoue et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,347,651, "Inoue") and Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-223,639 to Yazawa references were discussed. As a result of the interview, the Examiner indicated that the above claims distinguish the invention over the cited references.

In the interview, the term "mounted attitudes" was also discussed. As discussed in the interview, the Applicant respectfully submits that Table 1 on page 5 of the specification illustrates different mounted attitudes, the term referring to the orientation of the parts on the cable. See also, paragraph [0025] and Figs. 4E to 4J of the application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Inoue. As a preliminary matter, the Applicant submits that the correct patent number for

Inoue is 4,347,651. The Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that claims 1-3 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by Inoue.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "mounting the plurality of parts to the cable in mounted positions... the mounted positions being intermediate between opposite ends of the cable in a state where the cable is used... and mounting a plurality of parts to a cable that is a single unbroken member in mounted positions."

In contrast, Inoue discloses that each pair of press-connecting terminals is connected at the heads to each other. See column 2, lines 18-24 and column 6, lines 12 and 13 of Inoue. The heads or the ends of the wire are not comparable to a position intermediate between opposite ends of the wire. Further, Inoue does not disclose or suggest that the terminals are between opposite ends of the cable in a state where the cable is used.

Further, in contrast, Inoue discloses a wire that is cut into pieces and connected by terminals 18A-18F. Although Inoue discloses the terminals with the wires as connected are taken up as a single wire by the drum 153, the wires are broken members, not a single, unbroken member as recited in claim 1. As such, Inoue does not disclose or suggest at least the feature of mounting a plurality of parts to a cable that is a single unbroken member in mounted positions which are intermediate between opposite ends of the cable, because Inoue discloses broken wire segments connected only at the ends by the terminals 18A-18F. As such, Inoue fails to disclose or suggest the features of the invention as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yazawa. The Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that claim 1 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by Yazawa.

As noted above, claim 1, as amended, recites, mounting the plurality of parts to the cable in mounted positions and mounted attitudes, the mounted positions being intermediate between opposite ends of the cable in a state where the cable is used. In contrast, Yazawa discloses that the element 11 is connected at the end of the wire 1. As such, Yazawa does not disclose or suggest the features of the invention as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, element 11 mounted to the wire in Yazawa is not mounted at a position intermediate between opposite ends of a cable in a state where the cable is used, because a cut cable defines an end portion for connecting element 11 in Yazawa.

According to U.S. patent practice, a reference must teach every element of a claim in order to properly anticipate the claim under 35 U.S.C. §102. In addition, “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628,631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). “Every element of the claimed invention must be arranged as in the claim. [t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the patent claim.” Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989) (emphasis added). The Applicant respectfully submits that Inoue and Yazawa do not disclose or suggest the features of the invention as recited in claim 1. Accordingly,

Inoue and Yazawa do not anticipate claim 1, nor is claim 1 obvious in view of Inoue and Yazawa. As such, the Applicant submits that claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1. The Applicant further submits that each of these claims incorporate the patentable aspects thereof, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as discussed above. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, allowance of claims 1-5, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper,

may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 107348-00358.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time

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